been poor off-take in some years, mainly depending on condition of crops. It is very good during the current year.

(b) Yes Sir. It has been adopted in several countries like USA, Japan and in Europe for vector control of pests.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Due to global concern of the use of Pesticides and its far-reaching adverse effects, Government have adopted integrated Pest Management which includes biological control as a major component.

Government have set up 11 Central Biological Control Stations in various States to disseminate the information on methods and usefulness of biological control of pests to the farmers.

Oil drilling in Andhra Pradesh

*400. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state what are the recent developments in offshore and onshore drilling for oil in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): Exploratory drilling operations are currently in progress at the following locations in onshore and offshore areas of Krishna-Godavari basin:—

Onland:

Razole-6
Mandapeta-1
Bantumilli-A
Kaza-3
Psarlapuddi-3

Offshore:

Ravva-14
(GS-16)
Ravva-9
(GS-16)

Besides these, one well in Magatapalli is under testing.

Protection of small scale units from sickness

@3563. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY:
SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) how Government propose to protect small scale units from sickness; and

(b) whether any initiative has already been taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) A number of measures have been taken by the Government for detecting sickness at the incipient stage and towards rehabilitation of sick units in the small scale sector. Detailed guidelines have been issued by the Reserve Bank of India to all commercial banks in February, 1987 with specific reference to detecting incipient sickness, identification of sick small scale units, viability norms, as also reliefs and concessions from banks/financial institutions for implementation of rehabilitation packages in the case of potentially viable sick units. The Small Industries Development Fund set up by the Industrial Development Bank of India in May, 1986 also provides for rehabilitation assistance to sick SSI units financed by commercial banks, State Financial Corporations and State Small Industries Development Corporations. Financial assistance in the form of long term equity type assistance upto Rs. 75,000/- to units with a project cost not exceeding Rs. 5 lakhs at a nominal service charge of one per cent per annum is also available to potentially viable sick SSI units from the National Equity Fund set up in August, 1987. The Government of India have liberalised the Margin Money Scheme for revival of sick small scale units and the quantum of assistance under the scheme has been raised from Rs. 20,000/- to Rs. 50,000/- per unit.

@Previously Unstarred Question 3427, transferred from the 23rd August, 1988.